

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

10/5/05

THIRD READING

SB 668 (Van Woerkom) SB 669 (Stamas)

Support: Michigan Food Processors Association, Michigan Sugar Cooperative, Michigan Milk Producers, Michigan Farm Bureau, Potato Growers of Michigan, Michigan Agribusiness Association.

Oppose: Michigan Environmental Council.

<u>SB 668</u> states that until Michigan institutes its own generally accepted fruit, vegetable, dairy product and grain processing practices, a food processing plant is not creating a nuisance if it is in compliance with federal and state air/water quality laws. Additionally, if the investigation found the plant was operating in compliance with the laws, the plant would have a presumption of innocence in court.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.
- Van Woerkom 2 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 668 was moved to 3rd Reading.

<u>SB 669</u> states that a nuisance complaint cannot be brought to court until all administrative remedies have been exhausted. The substitute also states that if there are no generally accepted practices for food processing plants, the Department of Environmental Quality will assess if the plant is operating in compliance with federal and state air/water quality laws.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.
- Van Woerkom 2 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 669 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4852 (Casperson) HB 4857 (LaJoy) HB 4858 (ANDERSON)

HB 4852, HBs 4857-58 would revise state transportation laws comply with federal law. If the bills are not signed into law by October 1, 2005, Michigan could lose approximately \$8 million in federal funds.

Support: Michigan State Police, Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan Trucking Association.

Oppose: Michigan Farm Bureau -- Farm bureau is upset about removal of a provision allowing a 16-year old to be qualified as a commercial motor vehicle operator when driving farm vehicles.

HB 4852:

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- HB 4852 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4857:

• HB 4857 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4858:

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- Gilbert 1A (1 amend) was adopted. Technical change to correct drafting error.
- Garcia 1B (1 amend) was adopted.
- HB 4858 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5094 (Kolb)

HB 5094 would postpone the sunset on air emissions fees for two years. The fee is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2005. The bill would delay the sunset to September 30, 2007, without changing the fee cost. The current air emissions fees generate annual revenue of approximately \$11.3 million and the restricted fund has a balance of \$4.4 million. The Department of Environmental Quality estimates total annual expenditures for the next two fiscal years to be \$28.9 million, which is \$1.9 million greater than anticipated revenue collections.

• HB 5094 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.